

31 July 1986  
MBK-6010

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Bangkok Bureau -- July 1986

## I. GENERAL

A. On 27 July, Thailand held its 14th Parliamentary election since the creation of the Constitutional Monarchy in 1932. The election went off relatively quietly with only 9 deaths, including 5 who went down in a crash of a helicopter carrying ballot boxes. The pro-government Democrat Party did better than expected winning 100 of the 347 seats. Currently the stronger parties are jockeying for cabinet seats. Prem is again expected to head the new government.

B. The other major event of the month was the death of Le Duan, the Vietnamese Communist Party leader, on 10 July after a fairly lengthy illness. The subsequent events including the funeral and appointment of Truong Chinh as his successor were reported in rapid detail. We immediately diverted the ROSET to the 80E satellite to cover the TV pass feeds on Le Duan's wake and funeral and to pick up additional VNA circuits. [redacted] who was sitting in the slot when Le Duan's death was announced, acquitted himself very well.

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C. At the instigation of the State Department Inspection Team, the number of country team meetings has been reduced from thrice weekly to weekly. This will actually double the number of country team meetings, attended by the Bureau Chief since previously our attendance was limited to a biweekly "expanded" country team meeting.

## II. OPERATIONS

### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. During the month AFP suffered two work stoppages. The Hong Kong AFP circuit received by both Hong Kong and Bangkok Bureaus continued to operate but carried few items from non-Asian areas. Nevertheless, both bureaus assumed the worldwide alert function during their operating hours.

2. The in-depth study of the press agency circuits available on the ROSET continued until the death of Le Duan on 10 July when they were diverted for coverage on the wake and funeral. We have not yet digested all the data but have identified the useful PTI and UNI circuits and have initiated contract negotiations with these press agencies.

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3. During the month Bangkok Bureau received for the first time the SRV Party journal TAP CHI CONG SAN directly from Hanoi. The June issue arrived about 15 days faster than via Hong Kong, our normal route. The direct receipts of QUAN DOI NHAN DAN have been coming in regularly the last several months and we no longer require the HK receipts which can now be sent directly to NEAD instead.

4. Bangkok Bureau is now receiving the eight Pakistani papers formerly covered by Gulf Bureau and is beginning its coverage with the 29 July issues.

5. During the month, the bureau was informed that an editorial trainee will be arriving 28 September for a three-month training stint. We look forward to rejoining the ranks of the training bureaus.

#### B. Communications

AT 04446 GMT on 15 July, the routing of Bangkok Bureau's primary communications circuit was changed from [ ] After a slightly rocky start, the circuit is now running smoothly and we are already enjoying far more reliable communications than we have had under [ ]

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#### C. Lateral Services

During the month, the American Embassy in Singapore requested SRV material on the Vietnam succession issue. As a result of an exchange with the Embassy, we will be sending them regularly all priority and above items on Vietnam.

#### D. Technical

The following accountable property was received during the month:

1 ea Senator 12,00 BTU window air-conditioner, serial number 8602W1246

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

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1. Senior Editor [ ] and his daughter [ ] arrived PCS on 11 July.

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2. [ ] began his R&R on 21 July, stopping for a short visit to Hong Kong Bureau en route to the States. [ ] is acting Deputy Chief until [ ] return to work on 18 August.

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3. [ ] received a Special Achievement Award and \$300.00 for his work while on the Soviet desk of the Daily Report. He was instrumental in publishing a supplement on MIDAS and in forging better intra-FBIS relations among the Soviet specialists.

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4. A victory of sorts was achieved on 15 July when [ ] finally received his CSR reimbursement check, some 18 months after submitting his application.

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B. Building and Grounds

The contractor is putting the finishing touches on a new TV and FAX processing room in space formerly occupied by the Administrative Assistants. The room should be completed just in time for the installation of the new microwave system which will permit real-time TV reception at the bureau itself.

IV. VISITS

A. Ten individuals from the Thai National Intelligence Agency (NIA) were given a briefing by Assistant Engineer [ ] at Bang Ping on 1 July.

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B. Two State Department inspectors, Herrel Fuller on 2 July and Charles Sylvester on 10 July, visited the bureau to seek our views on Embassy administrative support and mission relations in general.

C. Gunny Sgt. Tony Cruz and 7 other Marines from the Embassy's MSG detachment visited the bureau on 18 July for a briefing and tour. The Gunny agreed that a tour should be repeated every six months, shortly after the new replacements arrive.

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[ ]  
Chief, Bangkok Bureau

RMB:lf

Attachment: Monthly Production Report

## BANGKOK BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR JULY 1986

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	669,520
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	297,890
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,488

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
II. <u>INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:</u> (minutes or issues per week)	20,485 min.	28,470 min.	257.00 issues
III. <u>OUTPUT FROM ROSET SOURCES:</u> (publishable words per month)			

INDONESIA

Jakarta ANTARA in English	1,070
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MALAYSIA

Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English	3,420
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PHILIPPINES

Manila PNA in English	4,750
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SRI LANKA

Colombo Lanka Puwath in English	280
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VIETNAM

Hanoi VNA in English	3,190
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IV. OUTPUT FROM ALL OTHER SOURCES:  
(publishable words per month)AUSTRALIA

Melbourne Overseas Service in English	21,600	
Sydney THE AUSTRALIAN in English		640

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>BANGLADESH</u>			
Dhaka Domestic Service in English	9,080		
Dhaka BSS in English		770	
Dhaka SANGBAD in Bengali			850
<u>BRUNEI</u>			
Kuala Belait THE BORNEO BULLETIN in English			840
<u>BURMA</u>			
Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese	4,710		
Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English			160
<u>CAMBODIA</u>			
Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian	34,450		
Phnom Penh SPK in English		15,600	
Phnom Penh SPK in French		5,320	
<u>CHINA</u>			
Beijing International Service in Bengali	170		
Beijing International Service in Burmese	190		
Beijing International Service in Lao	570		
Beijing in Cambodian to Cambodia	4,970		
<u>CLANDESTINE</u>			
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese	1,840		
(Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	19,830		
(Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian	2,530		
(Clandestine) Voice of the National Army Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian	8,700		
(Clandestine) Voice of the People of Malaysia in Malay	4,980		

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>HONG KONG</u>			
Hong Kong AFP in English		67,150	
<u>INDIA</u>			
Delhi General Overseas Service in English	5,800		
Delhi Domestic Service in English	59,230		
Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi	220		
Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English		2,370	
Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English			1,140
Delhi THE HINDUSTAN TIMES in English			1,740
<u>INDONESIA</u>			
Jakarta International Service in English	910		
Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian	4,910		
Jakarta JAKARTA POST in English			1,000
Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English			880
Jakarta BERITA BUANA in Indonesian			520
Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian			160
Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian			730
Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian			1,430
Jakarta TEMPO in Indonesian			3,150
<u>LAOS</u>			
Vientiane Domestic Service in Laos	46,950		
Vientiane KPL in English		5,640	
<u>MALAYSIA</u>			
Kuala Lumpur International Service in English	13,920		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English	5,700		
Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in Malay	1,360		
Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in			1,600

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>NEPAL</u>			
Katmandu External Service in English	310		
<u>PAKISTAN</u>			
Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu	1,070		
Karachi Domestic Service in English	13,840		
Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu	15,370		
<u>SINGAPORE</u>			
Singapore Domestic Service in English	1,340		
Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English			2,480
<u>SRI LANKA</u>			
Colombo International Service in English	10,390		
<u>THAILAND</u>			
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English	1,420		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Cambodian	100		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai	4,430		
Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Vietnamese	190		
Bangkok Domestic Service in English	5,190		
Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai	10,110		
Bangkok First Army Division Radio in Thai	1,440		
Bangkok Television Service in Thai	310		
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English			36,520
Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English			15,060
Bangkok THE NATION in English			44,530
Bangkok XIN ZHONG YUAN RIBAO in Chinese			1,040
Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese			310
Bangkok ZHONG HUA RIBAO in Chinese			2,190
Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai			

	<u>BROAD- CASTS</u>	<u>PRESS AGENCIES</u>	<u>PUBLI- CATION</u>
<u>THAILAND (continued)</u>			
Bangkok MATICHON in Thai			780
Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai			650
Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai			3,530
Bangkok SU ANAKHOT in Thai			1,100
Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai			430
<u>UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS</u>			
Moscow in Burmese to Burma	1,980		
Moscow in Cambodian to Cambodia	610		
Moscow in Hindi to India	1,040		
Moscow in Urdu to India	800		
Moscow in Urdu to Pakistan	910		
<u>VIETNAM</u>			
Hanoi International Service in English	10,490		
Hanoi International Service in Thai	600		
Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese	59,780		
Hanoi VNA in English		1,530	
Hanoi VNA in French		140	
Hanoi VNA in Vietnamese to VNA Ho Chi Minh City		590	
Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			20,170
Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			310
Hanoi TAP CHI CONG SAN in Vietnamese			8,050
Hanoi TAP CHI QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese			10,650